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Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn because <u>Tanaka</u> does not teach or suggest each feature of independent claims 1 and 4. MPEP § 2143.03 instructs that "[t]o establish <u>prima facie</u> obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. <u>In re Royka</u>, 409 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974)." Furthermore, Applicant respectfully asserts that dependent claims 2-3 and 5 are allowable at least because of their dependence from claims 1 and 4, respectively, and the reasons set forth above.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application, withdrawal of all rejections, and the timely allowance of all pending claims 1-5.

Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants undersigned representative to expedite the prosecution.

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EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: December 20, 2002

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